



BRUSSELS INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH CENTRE FOR MIGRATION & MINORITIES



BIRMM hosts IMISCOE Phd School!

This year's PhD school of the IMISCOE network reflected upon how racism and race have been dealt with by migration studies, and race critical studies (notably postcolonial and decolonial studies, critical race theories, Black Studies, ...). There are many different epistemologies, conceptualizations and theorizations, which are not always obvious to people engaged in the field. From 24 to 28 April, and together with 25 PhD students from across the globe, we

explored the state of the art around the topic of migration, race & racism. We discussed different theoretical and methodological challenges including measuring manifestations of racism & discrimination, and reflected upon solutions. The week was filled with fruitful debates during many workshops, lectures, and visits!

This IMISCOE PhD school was organized by [BIRMM](#) (Vrije Universiteit Brussel), [CEDEM](#) (Université de Liège), [CESSMIR](#) (Ghent University) & [The Network on Migration and Global Mobility](#) (University of Antwerp)

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Inside stories



PhD defense Abel Ghekiere

On May 11th, BIRMM member [Abel Ghekiere](#) successfully defended his PhD "Better Luck Next Time... New Methodological Approached to Understanding and Reducing the Mechanisms of rental Discrimination". He thus obtained the academic degree within the department of sociology (VUB) and Economics (UGent). BIRMM congratulates Abel for this wonderful achievement!

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Listen to our new podcast episode with Dounia Bourabain!

In this episode, we discuss the struggles faced by early career researchers in Belgium together with Dr. Dounia Bourabain. She defended her PhD in September 2022 on the subject 'Everyday Sexism and Racism in the Ivory Tower. The struggles and resistance of early career researchers in Belgium'. In her thesis, she clearly debunks the myth of the university as being the ideal meritocratic institution, wherein individuals can succeed and thrive on the



basis of their individual merit, hard work, and skills. Listen to the full episode on [Soundcloud](#) or [Spotify](#)!

Curious about the BIRMM podcast series 'Migration Talks' which features VUB research on migration and minorities? Check out our other podcasts [here](#) !

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Other news



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**Postdoctoral Fellowships
2023 CALL**

Opening:
12 • 04 • 2023

Closing:
13 • 09 • 2023

Budget:
€260.47 million

MSCA
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Developing talents, advancing research

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Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) 2023 call for Postdoctoral Fellowships

We warmly invite postdoctoral candidates to apply for a [Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action Postdoctoral Fellowship](#) (MSCA PF). This call is now open and will close on **13 September 2023**. More information about this call can be found by clicking on [this link](#). For more practical info on MSCA PF, feel free to consult the VUB's repository on the procedure for applicants available by [clicking here](#). For any other inquiries, you can also reach us by sending a mail to birmm@vub.be

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Past events



Network event 'Racism and discrimination in teacher trainings' - **21.03.2023**

In the context of the International Day against Racism, we organized a networking event on racism and discrimination in teacher trainings in collaboration with Levl. How would a



diverse teaching staff not only benefit students with a migration background, but all students? What are the experiences of racialized students regarding discrimination and racism in teacher education? A panel discussed these questions, followed by a networking moment to exchange ideas.

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Panel Debate: Can the EU discourage potential migrants from coming to Europe? An investigation of the impact of EU-funded information campaigns in The Gambia - 10.05.2023

On May 10th, we held a (hybrid) panel debate on the effects of eu-funded information campaigns in The Gambia. During this event, we welcomed Mrs. Ndey Haddy Jeng- Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of the Republic of The Gambia in Brussels, and Me. Mustapha Sallah, the Secretary General of Youth Against Irregular Migration (YAIM). BIRMM members Omar N. Cham, Ilke Adam & Florian Trauner presented the study results of the BRIDGES project. Click [here](#) to read the working paper that was presented.

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Migrant Academics' Narratives of Precocity and Resilience - 16.05.2023

On May 16th, a panel talk took place with the book editors of "Migrant Academics' Narratives of Precocity and Resilience in Europe". Book editors Dr. Olga Burlyuk and Dr. Ladan Rahbari were joined in this conversation by Dr Memory Mphaphuli (Postdoctoral researcher VUB)

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Did you miss our previous events? Make sure to keep an eye on

our [website](#), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [LinkedIn](#) so you don't miss any upcoming events!

Recent publications



[Advance care planning among older adults of Moroccan origin: An interview-based study](#)

Hakki Demirkapu, Hajji, R., Chater, B., De Maesschalck, S., Van den Block, L., De Vleminck, A., Devroey, D. | **Patient Education and Counseling**



[Autonomy without borders? Understanding the impact of undocumented residence status on healthcare relationships in Belgium](#)

Dirk Laufaut | **International Journal for feminist approaches to bioethics**



[Beating the border: playing with migrant experiences and borderveillant spectatorship in Channel 4's Smuggles \(2019\)](#)

Lennart Soberon, Kevin Smets | **Creating Europe from the Margin: Mobilities and Racism in Postcolonial Europe**



[Bureaucratic Migration Politics in West Africa: Opportunities and Dependencies Created by EU Funding](#)

Christof Roos, Florian Trauner, Ilke Adam | **International Migration Review**



[Cosmopolitan imageageary: the reception of Turkish TV series among young audience in urban, rural and diasporic setting \(Istanbul, Emir dag, Brussels\)](#)

Tahralli, F., Meers, P., Smets, K. | **International Communication Gazette**



[Country report on social relations, individual attitudes and migrant integration experiences - Belgium](#)

Louise Hantson, Laura Westerveen, Ilke Adam | **WholeCOMM Country report**



[Cultural Identity Performances on Social Media: A study of Bolivian Students](#)

Soto, P., Bauwens, J., Smets, K. | **Journalism and Media**



[De social netwerkvorming en toegang tot social steun van niet-begeleide nieuwkomers in transitie naar volwassenheid: Een kwalitatief, longitudinaal actie-onderzoek](#)

Liesbet De Backer | **INNOVIRIS - Brussels Institute for scientific research**



[Displacement, Asylum and the City: Understanding Migration Processes Through Urban Studies Approaches](#)

René Kreichauf | **Routledge**



[Different names, different discrimination? How perceptions of names can explain rental discrimination](#)

Billie Ann Marisa Martiniello, Pieter-Paul Verhaeghe | **Frontiers in Sociology**



[Effects of police ethics training on ethnic prejudice and social dominance orientation](#)

Filip Van Droogenbroeck, Bram Spruyt, Sanja Kutnjak Ivkovic | **Group Processes & Intergroup Relations**



[Ethnic discrimination on paper: uncovering realtors' willingness to discriminate with mystery mails](#)

Abel Ghekiere, Louise Lippens, Stijn Baert, Pieter-Paul Verhaeghe | **Applied Economics Letter**



[Ethnic discrimination on the shared short-term rental market of Airbnb: evidence from a correspondence study in Belgium](#)

Pieter-Paul Verhaeghe, Billie Ann Marisa Martiniello, Marek Endrich, Lisa Van Landschoot | **International Journal of Hospitality Management**



[Ethnic prejudices and public support for anti-discrimination policies on the housing market](#)

Pieter-Paul Verhaeghe, Billie Ann Marisa Martiniello, Dounia Bourabain | **Ethnicities**



[Equality for all? Support for Equal Opportunity Among Professors in Europe](#)

Dounia Bourabain, Pieter-Paul Verhaeghe | **Sociology Compass**



['Finding housing was an illness': refugees' sense of continued displacement in Belgium](#)

Hala El Moussawi | **Housing Studies**



[First-Generation College Students' Motives to Start University Education: An Investment in Self-Development, One's Economic Prospects or to Become a Role Model?](#)

Gil Antoine Keppens, Simon Boone, Els Consuegra, Ilse Laurijssen, Bram Spruyt, Filip Van Droogenbroeck | **Young**



[Governing migration through small towns: Dispersal and the production of spaces of transit](#)

René Kreichauf | **International Journal of Urban and Regional Research**



[In the Name of the Neighbour: The Associations between Racial Attitudes, Intergroup Contacts, Ethnic Diversity, and the Perception of Names in the Dutch Speaking Part of Belgium](#)

Billie Ann Marisa Martiniello, Pieter-Paul Verhaeghe | **Society**



[Identifying Rental Discrimination on the Flemish Housing Market: An Intersectional Approach](#)

Abel Ghekiere, Billie Ann Marisa Martiniello, Pieter-Paul Verhaeghe | **Ethnic and Racial Studies**



[Loneliness in Older Migrants: Exploring the Role of Cultural Differences in their Loneliness Experience](#)

Honghui Pan, Qualter, P., Barreto, M., Stegen, H., Dury, S. | **International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health**



[Negotiations in the Council of the EU under a new institutional setting: the case of the asylum policy](#)

Sara Silvestre | **Journal of Contemporary European Studies**



[Nood aan mededogen in een superdiners Brussel](#)

Filip Van Droogenbroeck, Bram Spruyt, Gide Van Cappel | **BRIO Brussel**



[Migration information campaigns: how to analyse their impact?](#)

Omar N. Cham, Florian Trauner | **International Migration**



[Reducing Ethnic Discrimination in Rental Applications: The Development of a Training Intervention](#)

Ghekiere, A., D'Hondt, F., Serous, E., Schelfhout, S., Verhaeghe, P-P. | **Housing Studies**



[Refugee youth: migration, justice and urban space](#)

Mattias Lucien De Backer | **Bristol University Press**



[Religious Life in Schooled Society? A Global Study of the Relationship Between Schooling and Religiosity in 76 Countries](#)

Kavadias L., Spruyt B., Kippers, T. | **International Journal of Comparative Sociology**



[Staying on track in higher secondary education in Flanders \(Belgium\). Mechanisms explaining social inequality in educational choice](#)

Ilse Laurijssen, Ignace Glorieux | **Research Papers in Education**



[The Coolness of Brexit](#)

Luk Van Langenhove | **Connecting ideas, UNU-CRIS**



[The Happy Home: Ageing, Migration, and Housing in Relation to older Migrants' Subjective Wellbeing](#)

Micheline Phlix, Ann Petermans, An-Sofie Smetcoren, Jan Vanrie | **International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health**



[The politicization and framing of migration in West Africa: transition to democracy as a game changer?](#)

Omar N. Cham, Ilke Adam | **Territory, Politics, Governance**



[The role of narratives in migratory decision-making: A comparative study of Afghan transit migrants in Turkey and potential migrants in The Gambia](#)

Jan-Paul Brekke, Florian Trauner, Ilke Adam, Omar N. Cham, Hannah Sattlecker, Kjersti Thorbjørnsrudove | **BRIDGES Working Paper nr. 17**



[The role of narratives in migratory decision-making: Analysing the impact of EU-funded information campaigns in The Gambia](#)

Florian Trauner, Ilke Adam, Omar N. Cham, Hannah Sattlecker | **BRIDGES working paper nr. 15**



[Virtual innocence. On the status of the children of European depart in northeast Syria](#)

Nadia Fadil, Marijke Caroline Van Buggenhout, Els Dumortier | **Ethnic and Racial Studies**



[Visual methods and migration research](#)

Kevin Smets | **Handbook of Migration Research Methods (2nd edition)**

The Brussels Interdisciplinary Research centre on Migration and Minorities (BIRMM) unites over 100 VUB researchers from 11 disciplines (including political science, law, sociology, criminology, geography, medical sciences, communication sciences, linguistics, psychology and educational sciences, philosophy, and history) working on migration and diversity related topics.

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